



# The Planning Post

bloomington,indiana



The Plan Commission approved the Downtown Plan at their September meeting. In doing so, the Commission added 12 conditions of approval to it. The Plan will now be forwarded to the City Council on October 26th and November 2nd for final action.



*The 2030 Transportation Plan will plan for all types of transportation uses over the next 25 years.*



## 4th Street & Indiana Avenue Project

The BZA recently approved a three story, mixed-use project at this location. This site currently houses Dagwood's Deli, as well as the former Sole Sensations and Karma Records store. The new project will demolish these structures and construct a new building that features 4,900 square feet of retail space on the first floor and office space for the IU Law School on the upper stories.

*The Buzz Continued on the Flip Side*

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

Plan Commission	12/12
BZA	11/17, 12/15
MPO CAC	11/16
MPO	11/04

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## Planning for the Future - Today

Transportation is central to every aspect of community life and affects every individual. It helps to provide economic opportunities, greater accessibility, stronger neighborhoods, enhanced public safety, educational possibilities and recreation options. Good transportation planning is, therefore, like a roadmap for the way people connect to the things that are important to them.

To address these issues, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) develop and adopt twenty-year long range transportation plans. The U.S. government requires that MPO's update their plans every five years in order to be eligible for federal funding. The Bloomington/Monroe County MPO is currently undertaking a comprehensive technical update of its Long Range Transportation Plan to forecast transportation needs to the year 2030. This collaborative effort involves the professional consulting firm of Bernardin, Lochmueller & Associates, as well as staff from the City of Bloomington, Town of Ellettsville and Monroe County. A key component of this process is the usage of the most recent employment and demographic data to help forecast future travel patterns and trends. The MPO anticipates the update will be completed late this year and that the Plan will be ready for publishing sometime in early 2006.

Needless to say, there have been many changes to the transportation systems of Bloomington since the last update in 2000. For instance, ridership on Bloomington Transit buses has increased by 47% over the last five years - largely due to the universal bus pass system for Indiana University students. Incorporating these types of changes in travel patterns is fundamental to the update process. Other attributes which can impact the future travel demand growth are also factored into the update. This includes committed multi-modal transportation projects and policy guidance from community plans, such as the Growth Policies Plan and the Alternative Transportation Greenways System Plan.

Public participation will be key to this update process, and the MPO is actively seeking citizen input. If you have comments, suggestions or questions concerning the Long Range Transportation Plan update process, please contact Pat Martin, Senior Transportation Planner, at the Planning Department.

## Inside Look



The Planning Department would like to welcome Patrick Martin, the new Senior Transportation Planner. Pat brings with him a diverse amount of transportation experience accumulated over 29 years with the State of Indiana and the Economic Development District in West Central Indiana.

As an avid runner and cyclist, Pat likens the profession of planning to an endurance event, entailing "endless hours and a high tolerance for pain." Pat also enjoys flying single and multi-engine planes. He earned his pilot's license in 1989 and has been buzzing the skies of Indiana ever since. Given Pat's extensive experience throughout his career, the Planning Department hopes to be the beneficiary of another 29 years of his enduring efforts. Please stop by and welcome Pat to the department!

## The Buzz . . .

### HAND LEED Project on Rockport Road

The 'Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design' project is a Plan Commission case involving a zoning change to allow 13 single-family, affordable homes, that are designed to protect and enhance the environment.

### TGI Fridays

A 6,000 square foot restaurant will be opening soon at the College Mall.

### Moore's Pike/Winfield Road Roundabout

The traffic roundabout project was officially opened to vehicles on August 12th.

## 2005 IPA Conference - *Bloomington*

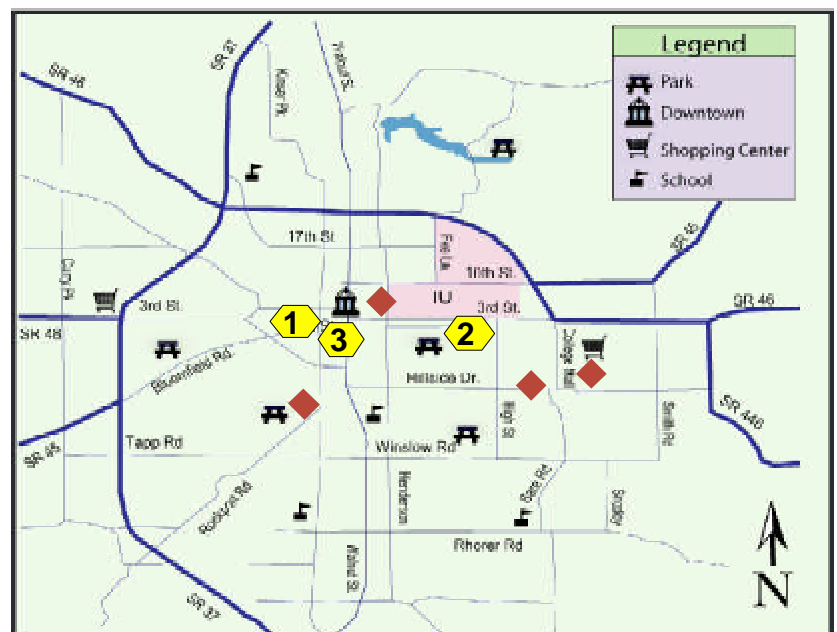
Bloomington will have the distinction of hosting the Indiana Planning Association's 2005 Fall Conference, from November 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. The conference theme is "Celebrating Indiana's Vibrant Communities" and it is geared to professional planners, planning officials and interested citizens alike. The keynote speaker is Dr. Gene Bunnell, AICP, a planning professor from the State University of New York at Albany, and the author of the best selling book "*Making Places Special*". Other topics include a Plan Commissioner workshop, watershed planning, farmland protection and Bloomington's own award-winning neighborhood plans.



Two mobile workshops, led by members of the Planning Department, will allow participants to see planning in action around Bloomington. Topics of these workshops include downtown development and industrial redevelopment. Both will help to highlight successful planning efforts that have been undertaken in both Bloomington and Monroe County. Be sure to bring comfortable shoes, as you'll walk these sites firsthand!

For more information about the IPA Fall Conference, or to register for it, simply visit the Association's web site at [www.indianaplanning.org](http://www.indianaplanning.org), or contact Deborah Luzier at (317) 881-8698.

## Bloomington's Action Map



- 1 Prospect Hill Neighborhood Plan:** The final draft of the Plan will be publicly released at a neighborhood event scheduled for sometime in late Fall.
- 2 Third St. & Atwater Ave. Corridor Study:** Ongoing evaluation to improve traffic flow. Stakeholder meetings will be held to gather public input.
- 3 Hilton Garden Hotel:** Construction of the six-story, 168 room downtown hotel is underway, with completion expected for Spring of 2006.
- ◆ Sites that are featured in the Construction Buzz section.**